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# THE JEMEZ JUGGERNAUT

LA-UR-21-xxxx

ILLUSTRATED QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER

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## **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** GALLERFANOOKUS RETURNS



**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT** LANL'S RHIANA KNOPE (ALDCELS)

ZACK: Ms Knope, you probably didn't know that I do extensive research before my interviews. It says here that you have 14 kids. I don't see how that's even possible since you look like you're 10.

RHIANA: What? I don't have 14 kids, I have 3 kids.

ZACK: What? Where are the other 11? We'll come back to that. I also found out you were a professional dancer and that you were in a 1984 break dance movie, Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo. Tell us about it.

RHIANA: Wait, you said 1984? I wasn't even born vet. And I was a professional ballerina, not a break dancer. Where did you get your information?

ZACK: That's confidential. And don't go getting your black swan

feathers in a ruffle. Let's talk motorcycles. When did you become interested in riding?

RHIANA: A little before my 30th birthday. My boyfriend had a motorcycle that I rode on and I realized I'd like to have a bike of my own. I like the feeling of being in control of the bike and the freedom that comes with it.

**ZACK:** What kind of bike do you ride?

RHIANA: I have a Ninja 400.

ZACK: Nice bike! Are you a safe rider? Do you wear protective equipment?

- Continued on Page 2



Ms Knope

## Ms Knope And The Missing Childrens

**Continued from Page 1** 

RHIANA: I wear all my gear every time I ride.
Jacket, gloves, boots, helmet...everything. And I've just started racing down south so I've got new gear for that.

**ZACK:** A few years ago I interviewed a guy that works at the Lab who races. He said he shaves his head to be more aerodynamic. Got any plans on doing that?

**RHIANA:** Haha, no. I'll just braid my hair.

ZACK: So you're just in it for the participation trophy? Okay, serious question though, do you think your dancing might somehow benefit you while racing motorcycles? Do you see any correlation?

RHIANA: Yes, I really do believe it helps. You have to possess great body awareness when you are doing ballet and that has carried over to racing motorcycles. You have to



move on the bike very smoothly. I am also able to understand and adjust easier to what other are teaching me. I mimic very well.

**ZACK:** What's the fastest you've ever gone on a motorcycle?

**RHIANA:** Legally? Haha, around 112 mph.

**ZACK:** Wow! That's about how fast I have to ride home after eating fast food burritos from down in Pojoaque...

**RHIANA:** I have no idea what you're talking about...



My ballerina diet keeps me eating pretty healthy

ZACK: Ms Knope, chickpeas and kale ain't going to cut it on the New Mexico racing circuit. Those people live on sasquatch jerky and PBR. Where did you grow up?

RHIANA: Truckee, California

ZACK: TRUCKEE CA? That's where the Donner Party broke down. Are you related to any of them Donners?

RHIANA: LOL, no, I don't believe so.

ZACK: I was in a little café in Truckee and I could just feel people staring at me like I was a big smoked slab of maple covered bacon.
Uncomfortable is what I was.

RHIANA: (Laughing) Really?

ZACK: Yep, and my waitress tried to sell me pinky fingers. She said they tasted like chicken. Okay, are you ready for some rapid fire questions? Here they come. Do you always wear a helmet?

RHIANA: Yes

**ZACK:** Even when you're in your car?

RHIANA: Ha. no.

ZACK: Ever drink and ride?

RHIANA: No

**ZACK:** Ever text and ride?

RHIANA: No

**ZACK:** Ever smoke and ride?

RHIANA: No

**ZACK:** Ever eat pinky fingers and ride?

RHIANA: No

ZACK: WHERE ARE THEM 11 CHILDRENS AT??? DID YOU EAT 'EM?

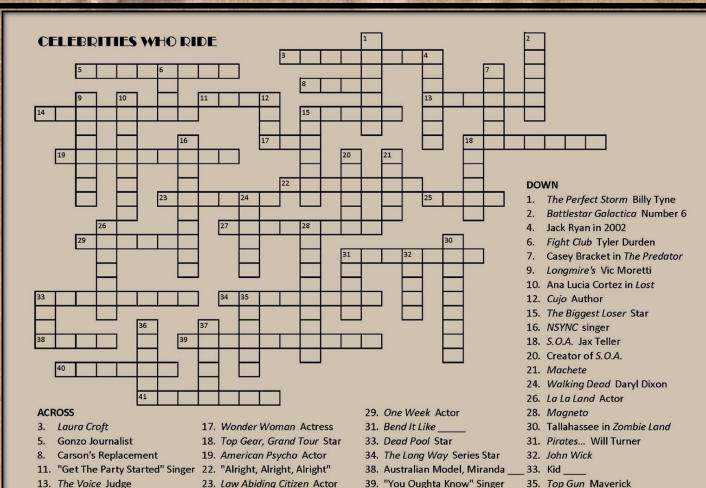
RHIANA: I did.

ZACK: I KNEW IT! Your name should be Hannibal Lecter-Knope. Okay, 2 more questions. What would you tell women who are interested in getting started riding?

RHIANA: GO FOR IT! Take a class, learn the right way to ride, get your endorsement and just...go for it!

ZACK: Very nice! Last question, what's the dumbest question you've ever been asked about motorcycles?

**RHIANA:** If I ate my non-existent children. You are so odd. The End





14. Vinnie Barbarino

15. Singer Raised in Alaska





25. Running Wild w/\_\_\_ Grylls

27. Biker Boys Donny





40. House Actor

41. Elwood Blues





36. Roy's Avatar in R.I.P.D.

37. The Hangover Phil













## ADVENTURE

BIKES:

By: Frank S. Schiavone

### **Adventure for Everyone**

The "Adventure" motorcycle segment has been one of the fastest-growing segments for the last few years, and will probably continue this trend for years to come. The reasons for this are many. Some are older riders, wanting to go from sport bikes or other street bikes, to something more comfortable and versatile. Some riders want to downsize from the pure touring behemoths like Gold Wings while still having a comfortable bike to ride for long distances, with large fuel tanks for long range and lots of luggage capacity. Some are younger riders who want to ride a motorcycle but don't want to ride a more narrow-focused sportbike, but instead are drawn to the sense of adventure that, well,

adventure (ADV) bikes provide.

Today's ADV bikes have never been better for their segment, and have never been better motorcycles in general. You can find anything from simple, lowpowered entry-level bikes with few, if any, rider aids, to 160hp monsters that are technological marvels. The larger and/or more premium bikes have technological packages that were unthinkable only a few years ago on any type of motorcycle. Fly-by-wire throttles allow for being able to easily switch from any number of standard engine and ride modes (Road, Rain, etc.), to customizable ride modes like KTM's "Rally Mode", where ABS (Road, Offroad, Off), traction control levels, and antiwheelie controls can all be

set independently to any number of different levels. In the case of KTM's Rally mode, traction control can even be set from 1 (no intervention) to 9 (full intervention) WHILE you're rolling. Wow.

In many cases, remarkably excellent road manners, and better than expected ability in the dirt make these bikes excellent all-arounders. Add standard or available cruise control and heated grips to the tech packages some of these bikes have, and you can see why this segment is growing so fast. In addition, the range of accessories, from factory accessories ("Farkles, in ADV lingo) like hard or soft luggage, skidplates, driving lights, and everything else you could think of, is larger





than and other bike segment except perhaps full-dressers...maybe. So, you can customize your bike to unbelievable levels, to either BE all "adventure", or just look the part (ain't judgin'...). If you could only have one bike (or are only ALLOWED to have one bike (ain't judgin' again...), a good ADV bike could be it. These are bikes that truly could take you around the world...or just to the mall (still ain't judgin'...).

For myself, I can personally attest to the appeal of and competency of a modern ADV bike. After almost 40 years of riding sportbikes and pure dirtbikes, I have recently added a new 2021 KTM 890

Adventure R to my stable. For times when I'm not in full attack mode in the canyons, or full attack mode in the dirt, or for when I want to ride a long distance on both the street and in the dirt, this fills that middle ground perfectly between my sport bike and MX bike. I plan on, well, maybe not festooning my ADV bike with farkles like some (did I mention I wasn't judgin'?), but adding enough farkles to enhance durability (skidplate, folding levers, "bark busters" etc.) and luggage (both hard and soft as conditions dictate) to allow me to go anywhere I want, and do everything I want. If you choose to switch to or add an ADV bike to your stable, I'm sure you'll easily be able to farkle it to your liking.

Being new to the ADV scene, and being an ATGATT kind of guy, of course I had to buy new riding/safety gear, and would seriously advise you to do so as well. Be aware that, typically, street riding gear is NOT really suited for ADV use, even if you

#### CONTINUED...

The riding position is

DO spend most of your time on the pavement.

generally different, and if you actually plan on going offroad, especially if you're experienced offroad or want to be, the type of protection you'll need is different from street riding. Gloves will be somewhat like MX gloves. ADV boots are very similar to MX or endure boots (i.e. big, stiff, and difficult to walk in), but typically trade some outright protection for more comfort in walking. You'll have to accurately determine the percentage of riding street vs. dirt that you will actually be doing. Are you going to be riding from hereto Canada, or Alaska mostly? Perhaps more ADV type gear is better. Are you going to be riding it as hard as you can on gnarly singletrack? Then pure MX gear will be a better fit. If you can afford a set of each of these extremes, even better, but until then, or if you can't, then sit and REALLY think about what you're going to be doing with you shiny (and soon to be dirty) new bike. No matter what





you choose, as with any kind of riding, cheap gear is not an option. Buy the best level of protection you can afford.

One thing to remember for those new to ADV bikes, especially those with dirt experience (surprisingly): No matter how good and maneuverable these new ADV are and how good the suspension on these bikes are (good to excellent), they are STILL, in some cases, over 500lbs fully loaded. The penalties for having a yard sale (big crash with pieces everywhere) can be very bad if not fatal. The reason I say "especially those with dirt experience" is because some of these bikes are so balanced.

case, and it's the lightest in its displacement, with a full tank of gas, the "dirtbike" underneath you STILL weighs 465lbs WITHOUT luggage. And that's also without the weight of the monkey on its back twisting the throttle. While my time on my new bike has been short so far, the bike was so good and made me feel so comfortable that my initial: "I'm just gonna take it easy on my new bike in the dirt because I'm rusty..." quickly became: "Send it!". And while I didn't get bit by my...ahhh, enthusiasm and lack of restraint (Who, ME?), it quickly became apparent that it would be a very big bite if it did bite me. While I can't say from experience (thankfully) that there is a world of difference in pain and injury between getting thrown off a 235lb dirtbike and a 465lb dirtbike, it's just physics, folks. I think that while having dirt experience is a big help on the one hand so you don't make noob mistakes, on the other hand it can also leave you with a false sense of security and

with such good suspension

(like my KTM), you can

start to forget that, in my

lull you into riding faster and harder than you intended...or so I've been told...(don't judge...). Not only are these heavy bikes, but some of them have over 100hp, some well over that! Trouble can happen very fast (and very painfully) with that kind of weight and power.

One thing that's great about the new ADV lifestyle, is that there are plenty of highlyqualified riding coaches and classes available to help anyone from beginners to advanced riders. For anything from local trail riding to crossing continents. In many cases, they also offer or can point you to tour groups for any travel you might want, domestic or foreign. This is probably the bike segment for which I would most highly recommend professional training. These are streetbike-sized, and streetbike-powered bikes, and can be a big handful offroad, especially when the going unexpectedly gets rough, and worse when the weather turns rough as well. You will never encounter deep mud/sand/water/snow and big rocks on a streetbike (sometimes all at once), but

you may on one of these ADV bikes that weighs the same. Training can help make a ride like that fun (or tolerable for the less masochistic) instead of painful and expensive.

So, if you're thinking about, or planning on, jumping into the ADV bike market and lifestyle, come on in, the water's perfect! Just remember to wear the proper gear, have the proper mindset, and get the proper training.

Until next time, keep the rubber side down and the shiny (dirty?) side up!

Frank S. Schiavone

#### **Guest Contributors**

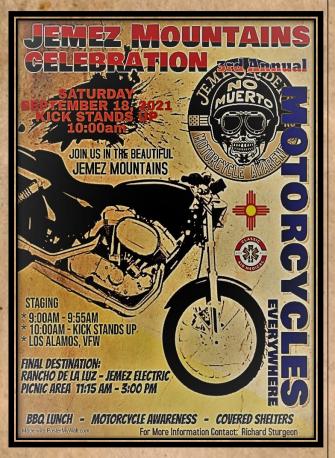
Please feel free to send motorcycle safety and awareness articles to the editor of this newspaper. He will see to it that your article is read and scrutinized and possibly pawned off

sturg@lanl.gov

as his own if it's any

good.

#### SEPTEMBER 18th JEMEZ MTS









### POLLUTION

May 1<sup>st</sup>: 8:00 AM The Y Parking Area



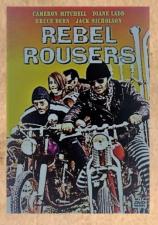
The Jemez Riders RC would like to invite you to come out and get your hands dirty.

Or you can wear gloves. Either way, if you want to help clean up a couple sections of highway and feel really good about yourself, meet us at the Y Parking Area on Saturday, May 1st at 8:00AM. For more information, show up at the Y Parking Area at 8:00AM.

### BIKER MOVIE REVIEW

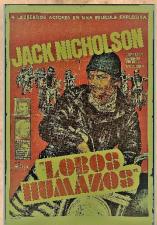
The Rebel Rousers (1970)

This one ain't bad!









## LANL BIKERS AT ASMA



# LANL Bikers Take It To The Track

Have you ever heard of ASMA? It's the Arroyo Seco Motorcyclist Association. This is the organization that runs trackdays and races at
Arroyo Seco Motorplex
in Deming, NM.
Anyone can take their
bike down and ride it on
a track all day for about
\$100. The organization
is run by Roger
Heemsbergen, who has

been racing for about 45 years and also owns the track. It's a technical track that can be run in both directions with everything from long, sweeping corners, chicanes, esses, and a long back straight to let

Three LANL Racers Take
On The Arroyo Seco
Motorplex In Deming, NM.
Brett Chandler, Alex
Cusick, And Rhiana Knope
Go Full Throttle

you really get the lead out! LANL and the MSC now have three individuals roadracing in this series in 2021, beginning in March. These are their Stories:

On March 10, 2018 at age 50, Brett Chandler (IFPROG) showed up at the racetrack to fulfill his 35 year dream of roadracing motorcycles. Five months prior, he had purchased a running

2001 Yamaha R6 for \$850, stripped it down, fixed it up and got it ready to ride. "The intensity of riding on a track," he says, "was completely overwhelming, but the feeling is indescribable. I had a grin for weeks after that experience. I thought I was a pretty fast rider, but the speeds these guys were running was mind blowing. I wanted to go that fast".

#### CONTINUED...

The following month on his

second visit, he entered his first beginner race and placed second. After crashing in April and rebuilding the bike, he won it in May hasn't looked back since. The following year, he upgraded to a 2009 fully race-prepped R6 and was able to secure the 2019 Formula Amateur championship, which is the premier Amateur series after a year long back-and-forth battle with another racer from Phoenix. He also placed second in two other amateur middleweight classes (beating some expert racers in the process) and a third in the unlimited superbike class. That championship bumped him up to the Expert class, the 'white plates', where he raced in the shortened and challenging season in 2020, and will race again in 2021 in the middleweight classes. A purveyor of hobbies that also include camping, fishing, hiking, skiing, guitar, and building his 1980 Corvette, you will find him on the white Honda Goldwing participating in as many of the Jemez Rider



events as he can manage.

He's young, he's fast, he's hungry. Alex Cusick (E-14) is the 2020 Formula Amateur Champion, which he secured along with the two middleweight championships and a first and second in the two unlimited classes. Alex too had a hard fought battle with the Phoenix racers, but was able to fight them off in the end, despite a mechanical failure in the final round. Although he did track days and started roadracing briefly a decade ago back in the Midwest, most of Alex's racing experience comes from the offroad side. competing in enduro and hare scramble races since 2013. Focusing back on roadracing

since 2018, Alex built his championship winning Triumph Daytona 675 race bike with his bare hands, and is now setting up a Kawasaki ZX10R to race in the Expert unlimited classes in 2021. He will compete in both the ASMA series and the MRA series in Colorado which includes events at High Plains Raceway, Pikes **Peak International** Raceway, and Pueblo Motorsports Park. Alex likes hot sauce, snowboarding, and long walks on the beach. His goals for the 2021 season are to figure out how not to wheelie the ZX10R so much on corner exits, to teach his 4 and 7 year old

boys how to ride dirt bikes and better appreciate loud music, and to stay awake more often in Webex meetings for work.

Ballet dancer turned motorcycle racer—you've got to be kidding me. Nope! Meet Rhiana Knope (ALDCELS), a ballet dancer of 25+ years with a desire to perfect her newfound love of speed finesse. As a single mother of three, chasing kids is a daily task—but with a need for speed, a desire to learn, and a newfound love of motorcycles, she decided it's time to race. Her street ride is a Kawasaki Ninja 400, which you may have seen her piloting on some of the Jemez

approached Brett last summer, expressing a desire to race and now will be working with him and the other formal coaches that ASMA has as part of their Team Heems racing team to learn, grow, and fulfill her own dream to race these fantastic machines. She will be racing in the ASMA junior cup aboard a Honda CBR300 and dueling against a large and competitive lightweight class, including a growing number of female racers. Women racers are growing so much that ASMA now has a formula femme class run for the first year in 2020. Congratulations to Rhiana for securing a sponsored ride for the 2021 season!

riders group rides. She



### NON RIDERS TAKE NOTE

- Riders know this, but the general public may not be aware. If you have never been part of a benefit ride you should know at least this:
- Bikers PAY to ride. Something they could do for free. But they choose to pay to ride, the fee can be anywhere between \$10 to \$20 or \$30 per person. Not only do they pay to ride, they usually drop a lot of cash for the extras. Raffles, 50/50, and silent auctions, even Toy Runs for kids....
- When you see a group ride by, they are probably riding for charity/great causes/benefits! Instead of getting upset because they blocked traffic or caused you a slight delay, please remember this: They are very generous people!
- Give them space and your patience. It sometimes helps to have a little reminder about things. So please be patient and smile when you see them because they are doing something good for someone you may know, or for a good cause.



### JEMEZ JUGGERNAUT: BACK PAGE

### WHO IS FIGHTING FOR YOU?



The New Mexico Motorcycle
Rights Organization is a committee
that exists for the purpose of
monitoring current political and
legislative activities that affect the
motorcycling community within
the state of New Mexico. The
committee provides this service to
all members of the motorcycling
community with the state of New
Mexico and also provides a central
body to which any individual can
make recommendations, proposals
or suggestions regarding current or
future legislative activities.



Jemez Riders
Altamont Riders
Scoville Riders
Encouraging safe
riding habits and
raising awareness for
motorcyclists at
LANL, LLNL & INL



For information on how you can contribute to the Jemez Juggernaut please contact Richard Sturgeon at sturg@lanl.gov